

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JUVENILE DIABETES FOUNDATION DURING NATIONAL DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of this body an organization that is leading the fight against a disease that debilitates and claims the lives of millions of Americans each year.

The statistics regarding diabetes are appalling. On average, the disease kills one American every three minutes. Sixteen million Americans suffer from the disease; of those, 5.4 million are undiagnosed. And, it should be known that taking insulin does not cure the disease or prevent the development of complications.

Tragically, diabetes strikes people of all ages. And it is a costly medical and financial burden. The average lifetime cost of diabetes care for a person diagnosed at age 3 is calculated at \$600,000.

In this regard, we look to groups such as the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International (JDF), a non-profit, non-governmental organization founded in 1970 by parents of children with diabetes. JDF's mission is to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the support of research.

Since its founding, JDF has spent more resources on diabetes research than any other non-profit, non-governmental agency in the world. Volunteers help define research priorities, select grant recipients, lead advocacy efforts, and provide guidance to overall operations.

At least 80 cents of every dollar goes directly to research and education. The Wall Street Journal's Smart Money Magazine name JDF one of the Nation's top 10 charities "you can trust" and one of only two charities in the health field.

This year alone, more than 200 research grants and over 110 fellowship and career development awards were granted to scientists in 17 countries throughout the world. In 28 years, JDF has been instrumental in encouraging the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to increase diabetes research funding from \$18 million to \$415 million annually.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognize November as National Diabetes Awareness Month, I would like to commemorate the outstanding and selfless work of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International.

RECOGNIZING THE FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS OF THE SERB NATIONAL FEDERATION LODGE NO. 64

**HON. RON KLINK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Serb National Federation Lodge No. 64 "Napredak" in Biddle, Pennsylvania which will be honoring its fifty year members on Sunday, October 31st, 1999.

Founded in 1907 by Yugoslav immigrants who came to Biddle to work in the coal mines, the lodge became an important way for these new Americans to support and help one another to overcome social obstacles and improve their quality of life. Named "Napredak", meaning "progressive", the members of the lodge strived not only to establish themselves and their families in the community while maintaining their heritage but to create fair and safe working conditions in the mines that employed them. In Biddle, this tie between culture and coal is still represented by the Biddle Serbian Club. Originally a Westmoreland Coal 'company store', lodge members have been meeting and holding picnics there for decades. They eventually purchased the building and turned it into the Biddle Serbian Club, preserving not only their history but that of the coal company.

Like many ethnic groups, American Serbs found security in maintaining their culture by building Serbian Orthodox Churches, establishing dance groups and choirs, and hosting picnics that featured traditional foods. The SNF also gave them the opportunity to purchase insurance policies to protect their families long before employers offered this benefit.

The SNF and the Biddle Serbian Club remain strong foundations for preserving the unique and wonderful culture and history of the Serbian people generations later.

Today, we honor the founders who built and maintain SNF Lodge No. 64. They are the very essence of the story of America. They came to the United States looking for opportunity, freedom, and prosperity. They often struggled to realize these dreams, but they never wavered from the belief that by working hard and living right that they would succeed. American Serbs proudly joined the millions of other immigrants from around the world that make the United States the amazingly diverse and culturally rich nation that it has become.

I salute the fifty year members of the SNF Lodge No. 64 "Napredak" in Biddle, Pennsylvania and congratulate them for their half century commitment to family, community, and tradition.

TRIBUTE TO CARL WILLIAMS

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, every so often I hear a wonderful story of someone giving of their time and money to contribute to their community. I rise here today to tell you of a man who has done just that. Carl Williams has donated the eighth largest carillon and its shining gold tower to the new Daniel Ritchie Center for Sports and Wellness at the University of Denver.

To reach the new bell tower you have to climb up a twisting 100-step staircase. Once in the tower you realize just how magnificent this feat really is. There is a long keyboard with two rows of levers that operate the sixty-five bell carillon. Crafted in the Netherlands, the bells of the Williams Carillon can be heard up to a mile away. They fill the air with beautiful melodies and classic music.

Mr. Speaker, it is with this that I say thank you to Carl Williams for his donation that has added so much to the atmosphere and tradition of the University of Denver. His legacy of giving is appreciated and deserving of recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CASS BALLENGER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall votes 533, 534, 535, and 536 last night, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, due to a commitment in my district on Monday, October 25, 1999, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall numbers 533-536.

The votes I missed include rollcall vote 533 on approving the Journal; rollcall vote 534 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 754, Made in America Information Act; rollcall vote 535 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 2303, History of the House Awareness and Preservation Act; and rollcall vote 536 on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to House Concurrent Resolution 194, recognizing the contributions of 4-H Clubs and their members to voluntary community service.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 533, 534, 535, and 536.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

REPROCESSED SINGLE USE MEDICAL DEVICE PATIENT SAFETY AMENDMENTS OF 1999

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my grave concerns about the practice of reprocessing and reusing single-use medical devices. There have been several recent media reports of medical devices intended for one use only being cleaned and used again on a different patient. Delicate devices, such as balloon catheters and biopsy forceps, are being reused on patients and causing infection and injuries.

It's estimated that as many as one in every three hospitals are reprocessing and reusing medical devices intended for single-use only. They are doing it without the consent of the patient and they are charging Medicare and the Federal Government the full price of a new device.

This practice is both deceptive and dangerous. Unsterile, brittle devices are injuring patients. A recent article in U.S. News & World Report told of a 50-year old woman who needed surgery when two reprocessed catheters broke during a brain scan. Premature babies have suffered infections from unsterile sutures. A biopsy patient was contaminated with hepatitis B from reused biopsy forceps.

Mr. Speaker, FDA clearly has the authority to regulate the practice of reusing medical devices yet it has failed to do so. Representative UPTON and I are introducing legislation today to ensure FDA regulation so that patients are protected. Our bill, the Reprocessed Single Use Medical Device Patient Safety Act of 1999, will require reprocessed medical devices to undergo pre-market approval for safety and effectiveness. The bill will also require hospitals to get a patient's informed consent before reusing a single-use medical device on them. Finally, the bill will require hospitals to monitor and report any injuries or infections that occur as a result of using a reprocessed medical device.

I understand the fiscal constraints hospitals are under. Managed health care has cut their payments so drastically that they feel pressured to cut costs wherever possible. However, we can't continue putting patients at risk in order to save a few dollars. We must put patients before profits. I urge my colleagues' support for the Reprocessed Single Use Medical Device Patient Safety Act of 1999.

TRIBUTE TO SETH RITCHIE, A  
"NATIONAL CHAMP"

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to tell you of a truly remarkable young man. He has seen hardships in his life that no one should ever have to endure. In 1994, he was in a terrible automobile accident that left him paralyzed and took the life of his dear friend Delano Garcia. Despite all this,

Seth Ritchey has risen above his grave personal adversity to win his division at the U.S. Wheelchair Open Tennis Championships.

Although Seth picked up wheelchair tennis just a year and a half ago, already he has excelled beyond anyone's expectations. Three months after his first tennis clinic in Grand Junction, Colorado, he was playing in his first tournament. Although he met some adversity in that tournament, he came right back, showing his true spirit in the next tournament held in Florida. There he was matched up against the best competition on the Eastern Seaboard, but still managed to win his division. Last summer at the Doris Denker Wheelchair Tournament he again ran into some tough competition. This did not slow him down. He traveled to San Diego, California to compete against players from all over the world in the U.S. Wheelchair Open Tennis Championships earlier this month. There he played in two matches a day that each lasted for up to three hours against players that had twenty years of experience on him. He won his division and became national champion.

Rarely do I hear a story like Seth Ritchie's. He is a truly remarkable young man who gives me inspiration to achieve more. I hope that more people can hear his story and gain from it what I have. So, it is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to Seth Ritchie for all of his accomplishments. He is a true hero and an inspiration to us all.

HONORING ANGUS C. BULLIS

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Angus C. Bullis, a resident of Mariposa for many years. Angus died on September 19, 1999, he was 74.

Mr. Bullis entered the service in 1941 where he served in the Navy Air Corps as a navigator until 1945. He started his painting contracting business in Fresno in 1956, and continued it for 43 years. Angus moved with his wife Helen and their family to Mariposa in 1968.

Angus Bullis served on the Mariposa County School Board for 12 years. He was also active in many organizations: Oddfellows Lodge #39, Rebekah Lodge #326, Life Member-Mariposa Golden Agers, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Mariposa County Republican Central Committee, Mariposa County Farm Bureau as 4-H Council President, Mariposa Contractors Association, Mariposa Wine and Grape Growers Association and he received the Honorary PTA Service Award.

Angus' hobby for the past seven years had been developing a seven-acre Zinfandel grape vineyard that produced gold medal award wines.

Mr. Bullis is survived by his devoted wife of 48 years, Helen, his children and many family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my condolences to the Bullis family. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Angus Bullis for his devotion to his family, the community and the United States Navy Air Corps.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JULIA CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent Monday, October 25, 1999, and as a result, missed rollcall votes 533 through 536. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 533, "yes" on rollcall vote 534, "yes" on rollcall vote 535, and "yes" on rollcall vote 536.

COMMEMORATING JUDGE DANIEL LEE KONKOL AS THE SOUTHSIDE BUSINESS CLUB MAN OF THE YEAR

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Milwaukee Circuit Court Judge Daniel Konkol, named Man of the Year by the Southside Business Club. We celebrate his recognition because it is an affirmation of the American Dream, the story of a hardworking, first generation Polish-American who, by dint of hard work and perseverance, became one of the most respected jurists and community leaders in the Milwaukee area.

Daniel Lee Konkol attended DeSales Prep Seminary High School and graduated in 1969. Later he attended Marquette University where he received his B.A. degree in 1973 and his J.D. degree in 1976. Dan worked his way through high school and college holding many jobs, from a maintenance worker at various schools—and even a convent—to a short order cook at a drive-in run by his neighbor.

It didn't take long for Dan's talent and commitment to catch the eye of those in the legal community. Following graduation from law school, Dan was hired as an assistant district attorney for Racine County. He worked there for eight years under three district attorneys, gaining experience in prosecuting all types of criminal matters including homicides, armed robberies, burglaries, domestic violence, and welfare fraud.

In 1985, Dan was appointed an assistant Milwaukee County court commissioner by Circuit Court Chief Judge Victor Manian. While a commissioner in 1988, Dan published in the Milwaukee Lawyer an article titled "The New Paternity Law: Law and Procedures." In 1990, he received a Wisconsin State Bar Commendation for an article he published in the Wisconsin Lawyer titled "Civil Restraining Orders, Distinguishing Domestic Abuse and Harassment."

In 1992, with extensive help from many friends and relatives, Dan ran a low-budget election campaign and was selected by voters as judge of the newly created Milwaukee County Circuit Court Branch 44. In 1998 he was re-elected without opposition.

He is known for his signature sky blue judicial robes, his excellent judicial record and his involvement in numerous fraternal, business, and civic organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly commend Judge Daniel Konkol, named Man of the Year by the Southside Business Club.

CIVITAS PROGRAM RESTORING  
HOPE IN BOSNIA AND  
HERZEGOVINA

## HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, in recent weeks a delegation of educators and education officials from Bosnia and Herzegovina traveled to my district to continue their work with the Center for Civic Education in implementing a successful civic education initiative called Civitas @ Bosnia and Herzegovina which is restoring hope to that divided nation.

The Civitas initiative consists of an education for democracy program for elementary and secondary students in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the goal of promoting the development of a political culture supportive of democratic values, principles, and institutions.

The distinguished members of the delegation include: Rahela Dzidic, Executive Director, Civitas @ Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo, Mile Ilic, Professor of Pedagogy and Psychology, University of Banja Luka, Banja Luka, Sanja Kantar, Philosophy Professor, Prijedor, Dejan Kronic, Counselor for Physics and Astronomy, Pedagogical Institute of the Republika Srpska, Civitas Regional Coordinator, Banja Luka, Anton Milos, Elementary School Principal, Civitas Municipal Coordinator for Kiseljak, Brestovsko, Ismet Salihbegovic, Deputy Minister of Education, Sarajevo Canton, Sarajevo, Halil Spago, Counselor for Education, Mostar Canton, Ministry of Education, Mostar, Esad Toromanovic, Sociology Professor, Civitas Cantonal Coordinator, Una Sana Canton, Bihac, Karlo Zelenika, Psychology and Pedagogy Professor, Civitas Cantonal Coordinator, Sikoki Brijeg, Masa Miskin, Translator, student, University of Sarajevo, Philosophy Faculty, Sarajevo, Aida Skaljac, Civitas Translator/Assistant, Sarajevo.

The Civitas initiative in Bosnia has produced impressive results. More than 2,500 teachers in all parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina have been using Project Citizen, a program translated and adapted from a successful civic education middle school program used in the United States. The teachers also are using translated and adapted versions of selected lessons on basic concepts of democracy. In all of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the program has reached more than 100,000 elementary and secondary students since its inception in 1996.

The initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina is part of the broader Civitas: An International Civic Education Exchange program administered by the Center for Civic Education. The program provides for a series of exchanges among leaders and educators in civic education in the United States and emerging and established democracies worldwide.

I applaud the promising results the Civitas initiative has already achieved and look forward to the continued success of the program.

IN MEMORY OF PRESIDENT  
JULIUS NYERERE

## HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a student, active in the African liberation movement, President Julius Nyerere was a source of inspiration to me. As a supporter, educator and celebrator of indigenous African cultures, Nyerere was a President who left an indelible mark not only on Africans of all countries, but of people of all nations.

It is fitting at this time to pay the utmost respect to his insight, which recognized the beauty and value of cultures that have so traditionally been devalued or exploited. President Nyerere, for example, promoted the use of Swahili, making this native African language the official language of Tanzania.

Those of us who were active in the movement against apartheid in South Africa, looked to Nyerere for this leadership, and emphasis on a collective system of government in which all people in the community are valued and provided for, ujamaa, or "familyhood".

Fittingly, President Nyerere was and is addressed throughout the world as "teacher", and his legacy of supporting and upholding the beauty of Africa for the world will live on in the people of Tanzania and everywhere.

## MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES SPENDING

## HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I am a longtime opponent of congressional pay raises and pork barrel spending. The time for us to make tough choices is most certainly here. I am encouraging the leadership of the House to reject attempts to cut spending on vital government programs across the board. Instead, let's eliminate the proposed congressional pay hike and the countless budget earmarks.

I staked out this proposal in a letter today to Speaker of the House DENNIS HASTERT requesting that he reject the proposed across-the-board spending cuts at a time when Congress is scheduled to receive a pay raise. I am also suggesting that Speaker HASTERT should turn back the spending programs we call "earmarks."

In light of budget realities and constraints on spending, we must define and protect our priorities as we are forced to make other spending sacrifices. The proposed 1.4 percent across-the-board spending cut would have disastrous effects on critical programs such as defense and education, as well as vital programs for senior citizens.

This reckless round of cuts would threaten our military's readiness and reduce the number of men and women in uniform. Cutting across the board could deprive almost 7,000 children and their families of the proven value of the Head Start program. Furthermore, the cuts would reduce aid to our nation's farmers. Disaster assistance and income assistance would both be reduced at a time when they are so badly needed.

My proposal could save the government billions of dollars. Giving up the 3.4 percent pay raise and cutting away earmarked proposals would eliminate the need for indiscriminate spending cuts which would devastate already under-funded programs.

Mr. Speaker, the time to act is now. We have to make the tough choices that the American people sent us here to make. For us to meet our obligations and protect Social Security, we will have to make sacrifices. We will have to do the right thing.

I am hopeful that the House leadership will make the right choice at this critical moment in the budget debate. It will take courage. It will require us to make tough choices. And that's our job.

## TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MARY FARLEY

## HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker. It is with great honor and profound sadness that I now rise to pay tribute to the life of Pueblo, Colorado's great civic matriarch, Mary Farley. After living a remarkably accomplished life that spanned 94 years, sadly, Mrs. Farley passed away earlier this month. But even as we mourn her passing, everyone who knew Mary should take comfort in the truly incredible life she led.

Since the 1930's, few can claim a place in the Pueblo community as lofty as Mary. Her accomplishments and contributions, Mr. Speaker, were many. During WWII, she co-chaired Pueblo's war bond drive and also served as secretary for the Community welfare council. In the 1960's, she and her husband—the equally distinguished late Dr. John Farley—founded the Farley Foundation which quickly became a leading philanthropic force in the community, state, and nation.

In recognition of her tireless civic endeavors touting noble causes like historical, environmental, and cultural preservation, Mary was inducted into the Pueblo Hall of Fame in 1994.

While her personal accomplishments are many, none are more weighty than the remarkable legacy she has left in her family. Mary's son, Tom Farley, now a leading attorney in the Pueblo area, has been a powerful voice in Colorado's political circles, serving as a state legislator and political activist. Kathy Farley, Mary's daughter, has followed her mother's lead as a community activist, serving as the Director of the Southern Colorado Community Foundation after a two term stint as a powerful advocate on the Pueblo County Commission. Ultimately, while John and Mary can be proud of all the many things they accomplished together, none could surpass what they have left in their children.

It has been said, Mr. Speaker, that the ultimate measure of a person's life is the extent to which they made the world a better place. If, indeed, this is the measure of worth in life, Mary's friends, family, and the Pueblo community can all attest to the success of the life she led. Indeed, both the Pueblo community and the great State of Colorado will benefit for many generations from Mary Farley's tireless drive to make her world a better place for us all.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you and good-bye to this great American who will long serve as an inspiration to us all. We will all miss her greatly.

CONGRATULATING SAINT AGNES  
MEDICAL CENTER FOR 70 YEARS  
OF CARE

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to recognize Saint Agnes Medical Center for 70 years of compassionate care to central California. Saint Agnes has grown from a 75-bed hospital, to a 326-bed regional healthcare delivery system, providing state-of-the-art, comprehensive health care to people of the central valley.

On August 4, 1929, Saint Agnes Medical Center opened its doors in Fresno a day earlier than planned to care for a little boy in need of emergency surgery. It is this commitment to compassionate care that central California residents have come to trust and rely upon over the past seven decades.

As part of its ongoing effort to meet the healthcare needs of central California's growing population, Saint Agnes Medical Center is embarking on a major facilities expansion, which will include expansion of its cardiac services. Construction will begin in the year 2000.

The mission statement reads as follows:

"We at Saint Agnes Medical Center, faithful to the spirit of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, strive to witness God's love through excellence in the delivery of health services. Motivated by compassion and respect, we respond to the health needs of the people of central California. We empower those who serve with us while stewarding human financial resources."

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Saint Agnes Medical Center for their continued compassion and service to the central valley. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Saint Agnes Medical Center many more years of continued growth and success.

MEMORIAL DAY SPEECH BY JOHN  
R. TAPIA, PH.D.

**HON. BOB STUMP**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, as we approach Veterans' Day and Members reflect on the importance of honoring those who served in the Armed Forces, I submit to Members the Memorial Day statement of my good friend, Dr. John R. Tapia, which follows:

DR. JOHN R. TAPIA—MEMORIAL DAY

Very few in the military ever receive formal decorations. Considering the military establishment as a whole, only a small fraction ever know the hell of actual combat. And of that fraction, only a minute percentage are ever decorated. The great percentage of this combat fraction either get wounded or killed!

So it was very appropriate that at one time this venerable event initially was designated as Decoration Day, to be observed by placing flowers and flags—in essence, decorating—the graves of our war dead.

Today, we define this day as Memorial Day, meaning, essentially, "anything, such as a monument, intended to preserve the memory of a person or event."

Memorial Day, then, is a day appointed to commemorate and decorate the dead of our Armed Services, for memory glorifies the brave. And, to glorify the brave with this memory, cemeteries have been dedicated as monuments, to honor them. To honor those who fell in battles, and those who survived the holocausts which wars create.

These are monuments of concrete and stone to serve as permanent remembrance of our gallant dead. And we must never forget who reposes in these hallowed grounds! To do so would be an act of the greatest treachery!

As commendable as this intention was, we, however, celebrate this venerable occasion only once a year! Yes, once a year, we officially remember and honor our nation's heroes. And, yes, it is most fitting that we have these cemetery monuments to remind us of their sacrifices and grievous loss, one of them my brother.

However, grievous as it is, we should also recognize another monument. A monument also dedicated to preserve this remembrance. Not only of the honored dead, but also of the honored living! A monument, not of concrete and stone, but one of compassion and selfless devotion to the care of our honored living!

It is a living monument of dedicated people concerned with the healing and well-being of those who survived the unspeakable horrors wrought by man's inhumanity to man in the course of wars! This celebration occurs, not once a year, but every living day of the year!

This living monument of which I speak, is a veterans medical center. It is a living monument dedicated to the preservation of this memory which celebrates the meaning of, not Memorial Day, but rather, Memorial Days!

As State and National Cemeteries are monuments of remembrance of our honored dead, these Medical edifices are monuments of remembrance, not only of our honored dead, but also of our honored living!

These selfless acts of mercy, which begin in the battlefields, with the life-saving efforts of those intrepid aidmen known as "corpsmen" or "medic", and progress through MASH units and General Hospitals, continue in the halls of these esteemed institutions.

It is also appropriate and proper, then, that, on this august occasion, we, the living legacy of the honored dead, recognize and pay tribute to those magnificent and benevolent volunteers, of all ages, who contribute their time to tend to the care and decoration of the graves of our honored dead, and who so unstintingly and compassionately provide care and comfort to those who courageously and honorably served our country during times of its greatest needs, at home, on foreign lands, on the seas, and in the air!

In the words of Daniel Webster:

"Let our object be our country,

"our whole country,

"and nothing but our country.

"And, by the blessing of God,

"may country itself become

"a vast and splendid monument—

"not of oppression and terror,

"but of wisdom, of peace, and of liberty—

"upon which the world may gaze with admiration

"forever!"

And, so—

To those who faithfully pay homage at these revered ceremonies;

To those who provide care and comfort for our veterans; and,

To those veterans organizations who render our final salute—

We, who will join the honored dead in these hallowed grounds—

Thank you and salute you!

COMMENTING ON THE DEPART-  
MENTS OF INTERIOR AND RE-  
LATED AGENCIES FISCAL YEAR  
2000 CONFERENCE REPORT

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in opposition to the FY 2000 Interior and Related Agencies Conference Report. This report represents poor environmental policy as it significantly weakens existing regulations and undermines current progress in environmental protection.

Most notably, the conference report fails to fully fund the administration's request for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The fund is one of the most important environmental sources of revenue made available to States and is the primary tool that allows for the purchase of threatened land. As a strong proponent of this program, I am pleased with the fact that H.R. 2466 includes \$30 million in funding for the stateside LWCF grant program, however, the report provides only \$266 million of the \$800 million requested by the White House. Since 1995, the stateside LWCF grant program, the principal source of funds that allows States to acquire recreation lands, has received no funding. This has led to all statewide efforts to promote conservation projects to be halted. As we enter the 21st century, I hope Congress can continue to increase the level of funding for the LWCF.

On another note, this conference report provides only one-third of the funds requested by the administration for the President's Lands Legacy Initiative. This initiative is used to purchase lands that protect national parks, forests, and wildlife refuges which add significantly to the beauty and capacity of our national parks and forests. I believe that the Lands Legacy Initiative is a good program and that this conference report threatens to derail the administration's efforts to promote environmental preservation.

Additionally, the conference report contains several anti-environmental riders. Among these riders is a provision that rewrites the 1872 mining law to allow mill operators to dump toxic mining wastes on sites larger than 5 acres without being subject to environmental restrictions. Moreover, this report precludes the Interior Department's regulation that imposes more stringent cleanup responsibilities on mine operations being conducted on public lands and weakens current laws for forest management by instituting a 1-year moratorium on regulations intended to improve environmental compliance in the operation of hardrock mines.

The conferees also added an anti-environmental rider in the conference report that involves rural agricultural lands. This provision would allow for grazing permits to be automatically granted 10-year renewals regardless of whether or not environmental impact studies have been completed. The effect of this

provision would prove extremely harmful to grazing land and its surrounding environment.

Furthermore, the report blocks the Interior Department's regulation that requires major oil companies to pay closer to the fair value of oil pumped on public lands and waters. This practice ends up costing the taxpayers millions of dollars each year.

Finally, this report fails to adequately provide funding for culturally important organizations to encourage development in the field of arts. Both the National Endowment for Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for Humanities (NEH) are funded at much less than the President's request of \$150 million each. Conferees provided \$115.7 million for NEH and only \$98 million for NEA. Without adequate funding, projects that focus on public education, understanding and appreciation of arts, including drama, music, art, and literature will face serious cutbacks.

Mr. Speaker, I am frustrated and disappointed that this conference report contains numerous provisions that undermine environmental protections and funding for cultural programs and I urge my colleagues to oppose final passage. If this report passes, I urge the President to veto this legislation so that we may have another opportunity to correct this seriously flawed bill.

IN HONOR OF SERGEANT RICHARD  
"DICK" BRICKMAN

**HON. PETER DEUTSCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the tremendous career of Sergeant Richard "Dick" Brickman. On January 3rd, 2000, Sergeant Brickman will retire from the Hollywood, Florida, Police Department after 30 remarkable years of service. Sergeant Brickman will be sorely missed by the State of Florida's law enforcement community.

Originally beginning his career in 1969 as a Road Patrol Officer, Dick Brickman has held countless positions in the Hollywood Police Department. Detective Sergeant, Patrol Sergeant, Operations Sergeant—these are some of the positions which Dick has held since being promoted in 1975. Throughout his tenure with the Hollywood Police Department, Dick has been at the forefront of innovative approaches to law enforcement. Sergeant Brickman was instrumental in implementing the "Operation Reindeer" program, a program that assigned officers to the roof tops of businesses and malls during the holiday season. Aimed at preventing seasonal crimes and apprehending criminals, this valuable and effective program has lasted 10 years and will stand as a testament to Sergeant Brickman's hard work and dedication to the Hollywood Police Department.

In addition to his outstanding work with the Hollywood Police Department, Sergeant Dick Brickman has demonstrated tremendous leadership in both local and State-wide law enforcement associations. In December 1979, Sergeant Brickman was elected President of the Broward County Police Benevolent Association (PBA), an organization which represents over 2,300 law enforcement officers in Broward County, Florida. He has been subse-

quently re-elected as President for seven 3-year terms. In addition, Dick also continues to serve on the Executive Board of the State of Florida PBA, an organization that represents more than 31,000 members of the law enforcement community statewide.

Dick is an atypical individual in the sense that he is a native Floridian who exhibits strong ties to the South Florida community. Born in Miami, he has spent his entire life in South Florida. Throughout the past six years, he has remained active in the community volunteering his time as the girls softball coach for the City of Hollywood. Sergeant Brickman has also volunteered his time as coach of the girls softball team at South Broward High School. Indeed, Sergeant Brickman's devotion to the South Florida community is nothing short of outstanding.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank Sergeant Brickman for his tremendous work on behalf of the State of Florida and the entire South Florida Community. As Sergeant Richard "Dick" Brickman retires from the Hollywood Police Department to close this important chapter of his life, I would also like to extend my best wishes for the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE 1999 NATIONAL  
MERIT SCHOLARS

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor a group of committed and accomplished students who were recently honored for their achievements in the 1999 National Merit Scholarship Competition. These students embody everything that is good with our youth today and are exceedingly worthy of our highest regards and praise.

From a field of over 1 million students that entered the Merit Program last year, Meg Patton, Matthew Thomas, Megan McGill, and Jeff Ward finished in the top 1% of entrants. For their remarkable scholastic achievement, each were recently recognized as National Merit Program semi-finalists. These incredibly talented students are now competing for one of 7,400 National Merit Scholarships awarded to the finest students in the country. Whether or not these students ultimately win the Merit Scholarship, each are among the finest in the nation and should take great pride in receiving this weighty accolade.

In addition, Juli Carillo, Erin Lindsey, Anthony Arcieri, Ksenya Gurshtein, Naomi Habbegger, Rachel Wilkenson, and Jeremiah Goodson were awarded letters of commendation for finishing in the top 5% of students who entered the competition. Like the semi-finalists, these students are to be commended for the lofty level of academic success they have achieved.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to these outstanding students on receiving an honor that they clearly deserve. Because of committed and talented young men and women like these, I know that America's future will be as bright as its remarkable past.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF CHINESE AMERICAN VET-  
ERANS DURING WORLD WAR II

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the sacrifices and contributions made by Chinese Americans during World War II.

Today, many of these brave men and women who served with pride during that time are gathering in Washington to remember their war years and the experiences that changed their lives forever. And tonight, the Organization of Chinese Americans, together with the Asian Pacific American Studies Program of the Smithsonian Institution, is sponsoring the world premiere of the documentary "We Served with Pride: The Chinese American Experience in World War II". The documentary is a first hand look at the personal experiences of Chinese Americans during the war.

I hope these efforts will help reverse an unfortunate situation. Despite their sacrifices, the service of Chinese American veterans during World War II is not well known to most Americans. More than 20,000 Chinese Americans served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the war, in almost every imaginable capacity. Without question, their sacrifices and distinguished efforts helped push our nation on to victory over the Axis powers.

Their pride is justified. The contributions they made in every theater of the war should be remembered. As Americans learn more about its nation's participation in the war through films such as "Saving Private Ryan", we should also use this opportunity to educate them about all facets of the war effort. The costs that Chinese American war veterans paid to defend our nation deserves this acknowledgment.

I urge the entire House of Representatives to join me in asking that our nation reflect upon these contributions and again thank our Chinese American veterans for their sacrifices and service.

COMMENDING THE ART II CLASS  
OF STAUNTON HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to commend the students of Staunton High School who helped the city of Staunton, Illinois earn a Governor's Hometown Award. Collaborating with the Staunton Chamber of Commerce, the class created and maintained a web site for the community.

The Art II class led by teacher, Gayle Scheller, contributed an amazing amount of time and energy into creating this outstanding web site. Thanks to their efforts, Staunton has the use of a powerful technological tool. In addition, the city has benefited from statewide recognition through the award bestowed by the Governor.

This contribution by the Art II Class of Staunton High School has enhanced communication throughout the community, in addition

to increasing the town's image. I would like to thank them for their contribution.

# STUDENT RESULTS ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. PATSY T. MINK**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 20, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2) to send more dollars to the classroom and for certain other purposes:

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Madam Chairman, today, I join my colleagues, Representatives WOOLSEY, SANCHEZ and MORELLA, in offering this amendment to restore the gender equity provisions in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The Majority has argued that these equity provisions are no longer needed. However, girls continue to face barriers in the classroom. The Women's Educational Equity Act (WEEA) and other gender equity provisions are still needed to help overcome these barriers. For instance:

While girls have improved in some areas, girls are still not learning the technology skills they need to compete in the 21st century. In fact, only a very small percentage of girls take computer science courses, even though 65% of jobs in the year 2000 will require these skills. The girls that do take computer classes tend to take data entry, while boys take advanced programming. For instance, only 17% of students who take the computer science Advanced Placement test are girls.

Furthermore, compared with boys, girls receive fewer scores of 3 or higher on Advanced Placement tests, the score needed to receive college credit. And on high-stakes tests that determine college admissions, scholarships, and course credit—including the SAT and ACT—boys continue to score higher than girls.

Although standardized tests, such as NAEP and TIMSS, illustrate that girls do score higher in reading and writing, boys still earn the highest scores in history, geography, math and science.

In 1974, I authored the Women's Educational Equity Act (WEEA) to help the federal government assist schools in eradicating sex discrimination from their programs and practices and in ensuring that a girl's future is determined not by her gender, but by her own interests, aspirations, and abilities. I consider this Act one of my finest achievements.

Since its inception, WEEA has been critical in assisting schools to achieve educational equity for women and girls. It has funded research; it has organized training programs and provided guidance and testing activities to combat inequitable educational practices; and it has established an 800 number, e-mail, and web site, in order to make these materials and models widely available at low cost to teachers, administrators, and parents.

WEEA provides a resource for teachers, administrators and parents seeking proven methods to ensure equity in their school systems and communities;

WEEA provides the materials and tools to help schools comply with Title IX, the federal law prohibiting sex discrimination in federally funded education institutions;

WEEA provides the research and model programs to back up Title IX's promise to American students of a non-discriminatory education;

WEEA projects help girls to become confident, educated, and self-sufficient women; and

WEEA helps to prevent teen pregnancy; keep girls in schools through graduation; provide mentors, and steer them toward careers using math, science and technology.

And that is only a glimpse of what WEEA has done for our girls. Since its inception, WEEA has funded over 700 programs, including:

Programs making math and science opportunities more accessible to girls and young women.

Expanding Your Horizons, which exposes girls to women in non-traditional careers, have been replicated in communities throughout the country, often by AAUW branches.

Projects developing teaching strategies to enhance girls' and ethnically diverse students' learning in math and science.

The development of "Engaging Middle School Girls in Math and Science", a nine-week course for teachers and administrators which explores ways of creating classroom environments that are supportive of girls' successes in these subjects.

A CD-ROM, called "A Lifetime of Science, Engineering and Mathematics", that showcases over 100 curricular innovations, professional development efforts and informal learning opportunities to promote gender equity in science, engineering, and mathematics.

And the observance of Women's History Month, which has exposed students across the country to the important contributions women have made to the nation.

Women have made great strides over the last few decades. However, much more needs to be done before there is true gender equity. The Women's Educational Equity Act and the gender equity provisions are essential in bringing about this change.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

## THE END OF AN ERA

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the ending of a tradition of dedication of serving the public by the Gray family of Carthage, Missouri. On August 27, 1924 Howard H. Gray opened the College Pharmacy on the square in Carthage. On October 31, 1999, Howard Gray's son, Bill Gray will close the doors of the College Pharmacy for the last time.

Bill Gray has spend the last 60 years in his "first home". First as an eleven year old youngster working for his father as a curb hop, picking up order from customers at the curb and running them in to his father to be filled. Later, Bill worked the soda fountain which in those days was filled with teenagers...quite a lively place. Upon obtaining his pharmacist degree from the University of Missouri, Kansas City, in 1950, Bill became an owner in the family business.

Over the last forty-nine years, Bill Gray has served the citizens of Carthage as a pharmacist and friend. Filling prescriptions, answering the questions of a nervous mother whose child is ill and even making house calls to deliver medicine to the elderly all have endeared College Pharmacy and Bill Gray in the hearts of the people of Carthage.

Life has not been all work for Bill. For over thirty-one consecutive years, Bill led a group of Carthage residents, known as Clyde's Bluff Dwellers, down the Buffalo River for a late spring float trip to enjoy the beauty of the Ozarks. Bill's knowledge of the Buffalo River is legendary.

For over 75 years, three-quarters of a century, Howard and Bill Gray helped the sick in Carthage get better and they did it with hometown service. On October 31, Bill Gray will hang up his blue pharmacist's coat, turn off the lights and lock the door to the College pharmacy for the last time. With the turn of a key, an historic landmark in Carthage, Missouri will become a memory.

I congratulate the Gray family for their years of faithful service to the public and, specifically, wish Bill Gray the best in the years ahead as he enjoys his retirement.

## TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN RICHARD L. RODGERS

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding Naval Officer, Captain Richard L. Rodgers, who has served with distinction for the past two years for the Secretary of the Navy as the Head of Appropriations Matters Office under the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller.) It is a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements in this capacity and commend him for a career of superb service that he has provided to the Department of the Navy, the Congress, and our great Nation as a whole.

During his tenure as Head, Appropriations Matters Office, which began in April of 1997, Captain Rodgers has provided members of the House Appropriations Committee, as well as our professional and personal staffs with timely and accurate support regarding Department of Navy plans, programs and budget decisions. His valuable contributions have enabled the Committee and the Department of the Navy to strengthen their close working relationship and to ensure the most modern, well-trained and well-equipped naval forces are attained for the defense of our great nation.

Mr. Chairman, Richard Rodgers and his wife, Jackie, have made many sacrifices during his career, and as they embark on the next great adventure beyond their beloved Navy, I call upon my colleagues to wish him every success and to thank him for his long, distinguished and ever-faithful service to God, country and the Navy.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CARL  
DINCLER

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and honor that I rise today to tell you of a man who's life was filled with family values, civic duty, kindness and love. He lived every moment of his life as though it were his last.

Carl Dincler loved to have the spotlight. He also loved sharing that light with everyone so that they might feel the inspiration and zest for life that he had so much of. Throughout the 86 accomplished years of his life, he touched so many people, whether it was in one of his business ventures or in one of his many community activities. Ultimately, these people knew they were in the presence of a great human being when in Carl's company.

With his equally accomplished wife Jeanette, Carl started a fabric store which became known for the stage curtains they made. If the curtains were not hung perfectly each time, Carl would get out the ladder and start over. He took pride in everything that he did, including his long time commitment to the community. Carl served as president of the Pueblo Board of Water Works and also former president of the Downtown Association and Lion's Club.

Aside from his many achievements in the business world, he has left a proud legacy in his family. He is survived by his wife Jeanette who is also known for her active role in the community. Together they had a daughter, Sharon, who has a Ph.D. in continuing education from the University of Denver and today edits doctoral theses. One granddaughter and a great-great-granddaughter also survive. These wonderful people will undoubtedly carry on the legacy of Carl's accomplished life.

Mr. Speaker, for the people of western Colorado and from the bottom of my heart, I say thank you to this man for realizing that one man can make a difference. His dedication to his family, his faith and his community will long be remembered and admired. He was an outstanding American and will be missed greatly.

TRIBUTE TO THE REEBOK SHOE  
COMPANY

**HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, the role this nation plays in international conflicts, in providing humanitarian aid abroad, and in working to better the lives of all humanity is a constant matter of debate throughout the United States. I believe we do have an obligation to use our tremendous resources, know-how and prosperity to help uplift the difficult conditions many find themselves in throughout the world. And, I believe everyone in this nation can play a major part in that effort. Our influential corporations, while doing business abroad, can and should play a major role by acting responsibly and showing nations what it means to protect human rights, respect the rights of

labor and respect the environment. Today, I'd like to highlight how one corporation—the Reebok shoe company—is working to make a positive difference in the lives of their workers. By allowing an objective third party labor rights organization to freely monitor the conditions of two of its factories in Indonesia, and make those findings public, Reebok has shown its desire for openness and cooperation, as well as a strong respect for the rights of the hard working people that make the company successful. I hope other major U.S. corporations will join in this effort.

I am very proud that the Reebok Corporation is located in my congressional district in Massachusetts. I commend the enclosed piece describing the latest initiative by Reebok's Chairman and CEO Paul Fireman, which recently appeared in the Washington Post, and ask that it be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, Oct. 17, 1999]  
STEPS WE MUST TAKE ON THIRD-WORLD  
LABOR

(By Paul Fireman, chairman and CEO of  
Reebok International Ltd)

Working conditions in overseas factories that produce apparel for the U.S. market have become controversial, putting companies on the spot for their decision to transfer jobs to faraway countries. Here's how one company is responding.

Tomorrow, Reebok International Ltd. will become the first company in the footwear industry to release an in-depth, third-party examination of labor conditions in the factories that make its products. We are not making the report public because it shows our company in an unequivocally favorable light—far from it. We are releasing it because we think it is time to confront and accept responsibility for correcting the sometimes-abusive conditions in factories overseas. We'd like to encourage other multinational corporations to follow suit.

The report, titled Peduli Hak—Indonesian for "Caring for Rights"—assesses conditions in two factories, PT Dong Joe Indonesia and PT Tong Yang Indonesia, which employ approximately 10,000 workers to make our footwear. Reebok doesn't own these factories; we selected them because they account for more than 75 percent of our footwear production in Indonesia, and have many similarities with other athletic footwear factories in Asia.

We chose the independent research and consulting firm Insan Hitawasana Sejahtera (IHS) to perform the assessment, based on the recommendation of leading human rights professionals who credit it with impartiality and objectivity. To ensure the team's independence, we guaranteed IHS full access to factory records and workers, without intervention from Reebok or the factory management. We also promised in advance to make the IHS report public.

The report, based on 1,400 hours spent inspecting the plants, observing working procedures and interviewing workers over a 14-month period, highlights some disturbing facts about the working conditions there. For example, it criticizes the way the factories' managers communicate with workers, noting that most workers are functionally illiterate and could not understand their rights under their collective bargaining agreement or the details of their wage statements. The report also found that it was more difficult for women than men to obtain promotions or supervisory positions. It faulted the factories' health and safety procedures—in particular the procedures governing the use and handling of chemicals. The report also describes steps the factories'

owners have been taking to rectify these problems.

Some of the flaws the IHS inspectors uncovered presented more of a challenge to correct than others. It is fairly simple to improve inadequate lighting, or ventilation where workers were being exposed to chemicals. And factories raised pay to bring it in line with the government's determination of a minimum living wage, since wages had not kept in line with the rapid fluctuations in prices following Indonesia's economic crisis. But it was altogether different when inspectors reported that drums containing the remains of hazardous substances were routinely left in areas accessible to the public, in violation of local hazardous waste laws. When the factory management changed its procedures to comply with the law, members of the local community protested; they had been collecting the drums and reselling them. In response, the factories adopted policies to allow for local collection of scrap metal and other non-hazardous waste materials.

Why did we undertake this potentially damaging workplace assessment, and why was it important to make the results public?

The simple answer is because of the commitment we at Reebok have made to respect the fundamental human rights of the nearly 25,000 workers in Asia who produce our footwear. That's why we placed a heavy emphasis on worker interviews (950 workers answered surveys; 500 took part in confidential interviews). It is also why we made Indonesian-language copies of the report available to the workers, and why we presented the report at a meeting with our footwear contractors.

But there is another reason, which is just as important. We want to encourage other multinational corporations that may be reluctant to open the doors of the factories manufacturing their products to in-depth inspections. Quite simply, we want to show that a detailed, critical report about factory conditions can be disclosed without the sky falling. And we'd like to change the attitude that has prevailed among many companies for many years—that they do not have any real responsibility for conditions in factories they do not own, or for the treatment of workers who are not their employees.

In 1992, Reebok adopted a code of conduct requiring that the factories of our global suppliers comply with internationally recognized human rights standards. Ever since, we have incorporated that code of conduct into our contractual agreements with factory owners and have monitored their compliance.

Despite these efforts—and those of some other companies—critics remained skeptical. They rightly point out that codes of conduct are little more than window dressing unless there is an effective process to monitor workplace conditions and determine whether standards are being met.

The Peduli Hak assessment was an attempt to address these concerns. But many multinational corporations that produce footwear, apparel and toys in the global marketplace remain fearful; although many now have codes of conduct, they are unwilling to undergo independent external monitoring, or suffer the embarrassment and expense that exposing workplace conditions might produce.

This fear of monitoring is seen in the reluctance of many companies to join the Fair Labor Association (FLA), which is chaired by former White House counsel Charles Ruff. The FLA has adopted procedures to accredit independent monitors who will be qualified to inspect factories for compliance with a Workplace Code of Conduct covering nine key areas: child labor, forced labor, discrimination, harassment, freedom of association,



wages, health and safety, hours of work and overtime compensation.

Reebok and nine other companies (Adidas-Salamon AG, Kathie Lee Gifford, Levi Strauss & Co., Liz Claiborne, L.L. Bean, Nicole Miller, Nike, Patagonia, Phillips Van Heusen) have agreed to participate in the FLA's monitoring program. While this is a good beginning, it does not amount to the broadly representative segment of the business community that any monitoring program will require to be effective. Of course, we hope the Peduli Hak assessment will benefit thousands of workers in Asia—but we also hope that its publication will encourage other companies to join us in seeking solutions to substandard workplace conditions in the global economy.

TRIBUTE TO THE REV. DR.  
GEORGE EDWARD McRAE

**HON. CARRIE P. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a distinct honor and privilege to pay tribute to one of Miami-Dade County's great leaders, the Rev. Dr. George Edward McRae, pastor of Mt. Tabor Missionary Baptist Church in Liberty City. On Thursday, October 28, 1999, the Miami Herald will honor him as a recipient of the 15th Annual Charles Whited Spirit of Excellence Award, along with five other distinguished South Floridians.

Admired by his friends and colleagues as a "multi-talented man of God dedicated to service," Rev. McRae truly represents one of the noblest public servants of our community. As pastor and teacher at Mt. Tabor Baptist Church for the last ten years, he has been relentless in leading the members of his congregation in the ways of God, focusing his efforts on the agenda of spiritual wisdom and compassionate service to our community's less fortunate—the sick and the elderly, the hungry and the homeless, the poor and the disenfranchised, and the imprisoned and the dying.

Indeed, he genuinely exemplifies a true Spirit of Excellence for being a "leader in outreach," defining his life's consecration to the disenfranchised and the forgotten. As my pastor and confidante, I want to acknowledge Rev. McRae's tremendous work for constantly reminding us of the love and understanding for our fellow human beings. He truly evokes the example of Christ, the Good Shepherd, and is constantly enlightening his flock of believers, sharing with us the fact that our lives are inextricably interwoven with one another—regardless of our creed, color, gender, or philosophical persuasion.

The outreach programs Rev. McRae founded include Christian Education, HIV/AIDS awareness and education, a prison ministry, substance abuse forums, homeless shelters and feeding programs for the children, the elderly and the homeless. He is a down-to-earth minister of the Gospel who pragmatically aligns himself to the adage that "... people would rather see a sermon than hear it." All through these years I have learned from him the very centrality of God's role in our daily lives, conscious of the fact that ultimately the mandate of our faith to help the less fortunate among us does not contradict, but rather com-

plement, our public stewardship on behalf of our constituents.

In its laudatory recognition The Miami Herald aptly described him as "the catalyst for monumental strides in the church's outreach programs," succinctly recognizing that our churches, along with our synagogues and temples, form a substantial part of a larger network of institutions that fittingly serve as the pillars of our community. Accordingly, his standards for learning, caring and achieving for the underserved has won for him countless accolades from South Florida's ecumenical community and beyond. Likewise, public and private agencies have deservedly cited him for his untiring commitment to service and his uncompromising stance on simple justice and equal opportunity for all.

Long before Florida's Black churches and community organizations came to the understanding of HIV/AIDS, Rev. McRae has single-handedly trailblazed our consciousness into the scourge that this virus has inflicted on our community. He pioneered the establishment of MOVERS (Minorities Overcoming the Virus Through Education, Responsibility and Spirituality), a program geared toward helping people survive the effects of HIV/AIDS. Today MOVERS is being replicated all over the country as it addresses the dilemma of the African-American community currently plagued by what he calls "the triangle of death"—i.e., drugs, incarceration and AIDS.

Our community is comforted by his undaunted leadership and compassionate caring. Accordingly, The Miami Herald has articulated our deepest respect and admiration for him with its prestigious Spirit of Excellence Award. Most of all, I am grateful that he continues to teach us that the ethic of our stewardship from God is genuinely manifested by our service to our fellow men. This is the legacy the Rev. George Edward McRae shares with us, and I am indeed privileged to have his friendship and confidence.

ROCKVILLE COLOR GUARD  
MARCHES TOWARD GLORY

**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to congratulate the American Legion Post 86 Color Guard for their victory at the National Senior Color Guard Competition (Closed Military Class) at the American Legion National Convention in Anaheim, California.

The Post 86 Color Guard was formed in 1981 to promote Americanism and patriotism. Augmented by members of the Auxiliary and Sons of the Legion, the Post 86 Color Guard quickly proved itself within the state of Maryland. For the past seven years, they have been the Department of Maryland (American Legion) state champion. The Post 86 Color Guard will now proudly serve as the National American Legion Color Guard for 1999–2000.

For their service to the American Legion, the community, our veterans, and our country, I ask my colleague to join me in congratulating the Henderson-Smith-Edmonds Post 86 Color Guard of Rockville, Maryland.

STUDENT RESULTS ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. PATSY T. MINK**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 20, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2) to send more dollars to the classroom and for certain other purposes:

Mrs. MINK. Madam Chairman, I believe strongly that all children deserve the opportunity to receive the best education possible. Title I was enacted with this credo in mind.

Our federal education dollars have always focused on specific areas of need within our education system. Since we provide roughly only 7% of the total elementary and secondary education funding spent in this country, we have always sought to concentrate these limited federal dollars in areas where they can make a real difference.

Title I is arguably the most important program of our federal education funds; it certainly is the largest. It provides nearly \$8 billion annually to address inequities in education for our poorest students. This program is critical to helping communities provide high quality instruction and educational services to disadvantaged children.

And Title I is working. Earlier this year, the U.S. Department of Education issued "Promising Results, Continuing Challenges: The Final Report of the National Assessment of Title I." This in-depth analysis of Title I concluded that the initial results of Title I's systemic accountability system have proven successful. Out of the six States reporting data, five showed improvement in math achievement and four in reading. Out of the 13 urban school districts reporting, 9 showed substantial increases in either math or reading achievement. Most importantly, the National Assessment told us that, when fully implemented, systemic reform will very likely close the achievement gap between disadvantaged students and their non-disadvantaged peers.

I do have serious concerns about certain provisions, or lack thereof, in H.R. 2.

In particular, I am concerned about the changes in the schoolwide poverty requirements, the exclusion of the Women's Educational Equity Act, and the repeal of the Native Hawaiian Education Programs from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

H.R. 2, as reported, lowers the poverty eligibility threshold for schoolwide programs from 50% to 40%. Presently, schools with over 50% of their student population from low-income families can operate a schoolwide program. When this provision was first passed, schools had to have 75% poverty to be eligible.

Although schoolwide programs have been shown to be very effective for disadvantaged students, they are only considered advantageous if there are a significant number of children in poverty. By lowering the poverty threshold to 40, the Majority is diluting the program's focus on poor children. 40% poverty means that 60%—the majority of the school—is not poverty-stricken. It is imperative that these Title I funds remain with the kids who need it the most.

During Committee consideration of H.R. 2, the Committee, passed an amendment by



Representative Payne, by a vote of 24–21, to retain the schoolwide threshold at 50%. Later in the markup, the Majority inexplicably reversed itself and passed an amendment to move the threshold back to 40%. For the life of me I cannot understand why after approving an amendment to raise the schoolwide threshold, the Committee took a step backwards and reversed itself.

I also strongly oppose the elimination of the gender equity provisions in current law and the Women's Educational Equity Act (WEEA).

By eliminating a current, long-standing program that ensures fairness and equal opportunities in schools, the Majority is ignoring the different educational needs of girls and boys. WEEA represents the federal commitment to ensure that all students' futures are determined not by their gender, but by their own interests, aspirations, and abilities.

Since 1974, WEEA has funded the development and dissemination of curricular materials; training programs; guidance activities; and other projects to combat inequitable educational practices. WEEA provides a resource for teachers, administrators, and parents and provides the materials and tools to help schools comply with Title IX, the federal law prohibiting sex discrimination in federally funded education institutions. Through an 800 number, e-mail, and a web site, the WEEP Publishing Center makes these materials and models widely available to teachers, administrators, and parents.

WEEA has funded over 700 programs since its inception, and the requests for assistance and information are growing. From February to August of this year, the WEEA Resource Center received over 750 requests for technical assistance. Past and current WEEA-funded projects include making math and science opportunities more accessible to girls, and programs such as "Expanding Your Horizons" expose girls to women to non-traditional careers.

The Majority cited the results of a 1994 GAO study as its reason for eliminating this very important program. It argued that the Womens' Educational Equity Center lacked the staff to implement this program. The majority also argued that a small percentage of the grants made its way to the state and local levels.

It is no wonder. During the 1980s, WEEA fought a constant battle with funding and authorization. It has only been since the GAO report was printed and a Democratic president was elected, that the Womens' Educational Equity Center has been able to grow and improve. The Majority must not rely on a dated report that is no longer relevant to justify the elimination of this program.

The Majority also argues this program is not needed. Girls are doing better than boys in school in reading and writing. Although there has been much improvement in girls accomplishments, this does not justify the elimination of the program that added to these gains. Girls are achieving now because of the federal government's focus and attention on these inequities.

Moreover, although there has been gains, girls are still lagging behind boys in many important subjects, such as math, science, and technology.

WEEA helps girls acquire the skills and self-confidence they will need to support themselves and help support their families. Efforts to improve education will fail unless we ad-

dress the different needs of different students. Excellence and equity go hand in hand. The repeal of this critical program undermines this country's commitment to equity in the classroom.

And last, I am appalled that this bill repeals the Native Hawaiian Education Programs from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

The Native Hawaiian Education Program has been in effect since 1988, when it was first included in Title IX of ESEA together with funding for Native American and Native Alaskan education programs. Native Hawaiians are Native Americans, and like Native American Indians, they have suffered greatly at the hand of the U.S. Government, most significantly due to the illegal overthrow of the Hawaiian Monarchy by military force in 1893. As a result, Native Hawaiians were disenfranchised from their land, their culture, and their ability to self govern. Eliminating this program negates the steady progress that has been made in recent years to make amends for the terrible travesty of the overthrow.

From 1826 until 1893, the United States recognized the Kingdom of Hawaii as a sovereign, independent nation and accorded her full and complete diplomatic recognition. During this time, treaties and trade agreements were entered into between these two nations. However, in 1893, a powerful group of American businessmen engineered the overthrow with the use of U.S. Naval forces. Queen Liliuokalani was imprisoned and over 1.8 million acres of land belonging to the Crown, referred to as Crown lands or ceded lands, were confiscated without compensation or due process.

This takeover was illegal. There was no treaty of annexation. There was no referendum of consent by the Native Hawaiian people. Recently, the National Archives disclosed amongst its treasures a 556 page petition dated 1897–1898 protesting the annexation of Hawaii by the U.S. It was signed by 21,259 Native Hawaiian people. A second petition had more than 17,000 signatures. Historians advise that this number of signatories constitutes nearly 100% of the adult Native Hawaiian population at that time.

Today, out of a total of 211,033 acres of land occupied by the military, the ownership of 112,137 acres can be traced to the royal family. No compensation was ever paid for these lands.

In 1920, Congress answered the cries of injustice by decreeing that 200,000 acres of land confiscated by the federal government be returned to the Native Hawaiians as an act of contrition. Unfortunately, these lands were in places where no one lived or wanted to live. They were in the most remote places—isolated without any infrastructure or access to jobs. Today, Native Hawaiians live in segregated reservations much like the Indian tribes. Their current despair is due to this forced isolation.

The Native Hawaiian Education Act was established out of our moral and legal responsibility for the destruction that occurred to this community. The \$20 million that funds this program to help educate Native Hawaiian children can't begin to make up for the loss of a nation, of an identity, a culture, and a heritage, but it can help fulfill our moral and legal obligations.

Justice requires that we fulfill our trust obligations to the Native Hawaiian community.

This modest program has helped these children, who suffer the lowest reading and math scores, whose families suffer the highest percentage of poverty, and whose health statistics and mortality rates are alarming by all measures. We do this for the Native American and Native Alaskan communities. The Majority would never dream of eliminating the funding for these equally important programs. We must not repeal this important program for the Native Hawaiian population.

I want to support this bill. Some good reforms and improvements were incorporated in this legislation. But unless the three areas that I have addressed are fixed, H.R. 2 will be a travesty on girls and women, on Native Hawaiians and on the poor children who need all the help this nation can muster.

#### STUDENT RESULTS ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 20, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2) to send more dollars to the classroom and for certain other purposes:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Chairman, I rise today to show my support for the Mink/Woolsey/Sanchez/Morella amendment to H.R. 2, the Student Results Act. This amendment would place much needed gender equity language into this bipartisan legislation.

Madam Chairman, I know firsthand how difficult it is for women to compete in today's world. As a woman of many firsts, I know that it is not always assumed that anything boys can do, girls can do, especially in the sciences. Let me give you some statistics to illustrate my point. Only 25 percent of female students have taken computer science courses in high school. Only 20 percent of female students take the three core science courses in high school. Also, only 19 percent of girls earn a math SAT score of 600 or above vs. 30% of males. These statistics are alarming.

We need to create a strong workforce for technology jobs in our country so that we can continue to compete with other countries. Therefore, it is important for us to not only include, but to also encourage every student to excel in the maths and sciences. That means encouraging girls as well as boys to take courses in math and science. We cannot afford to limit our technology workforce and training based on gender.

Studies have proven that teachers and other influences in children's lives still do not equally encourage girls as well as boys to study math and science. Until we see more improvements in these statistics, gender equity language will be necessary.

This amendment will train teachers in gender equitable methods and techniques and require the identification and elimination of gender and racial bias in instructional materials. It will continue the progress that was started with the passage of Title IX in 1974 to close the gender gap which still exists in today's schools.

I wish that I did not have to speak about this gender gap and hope that a day will come when we will no longer need this type of legislation. Until that day, let us do the right thing and prove to everyone that this Congress cares about girls as much as we do boys by adopting this amendment.

**PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN'S  
COMMENTS ON THE BUDGET**

**HON. PHILIP M. CRANE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, last week, Joe Lockhart, the Presidential spokesman, made a number of erroneous statements regarding the budget. Mr. Lockhart called "absurd" the notion that President Clinton has finally come around to the Republican way of thinking by not wanting to touch the Social Security surplus—yet—the facts state differently.

The President's original fiscal year-2000 budget asked to spend some 41 percent of the Social Security surplus.

The President's State of the Union address specifically stated that the President would only commit 60 percent of the surplus for Social Security.

And now, the President tells the bipartisan delegation meeting over the budget that he wants to save 100 percent of the surplus. If that isn't a turnaround to support the Republican position of "lock-box," protecting Social Security, I don't know what is.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD this information and other erroneous statements made by Mr. Lockhart last week in his presidential press conference, showing how these inaccuracies have attempted to bias public information against the real facts.

RAPID RESPONSE FROM THE SPEAKER'S PRESS  
OFFICE—WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1999

"JUST THE FACTS, MR. LOCKHART"

Joe Lockhart says that the idea that President Clinton finally came around to the Congressional Republican's plan of protecting 100 percent of the Social Security surplus is an "absurd notion."

Fact: The President's original budget for FY 2000 spends 41 percent of the Social Security surplus. Also, the President specifically proposed in this year's State of the Union to only commit 60 percent of the budget surplus for Social Security. He told the bi-partisan delegation yesterday that he now wants to save 100 percent of the Social Security surplus.

Joe Lockhart says that CBO says that the Republicans have already spent the Social Security surplus.

Fact: In a September 30 letter to Speaker Hastert, CBO Director Dan Crippen clearly states that the final GOP budget plan "will not use any of the projected Social Security surplus."

Joe Lockhart says our budget is full of "gimmicks" such as using advanced appropriations.

Fact: The President's own budget used \$18.8 billion in advanced appropriations. Furthermore, advanced appropriations simply means that money not spent next year will not be counted towards next year's budget. If the money is not being spent until 2002, it should be counted against the 2002 budget, not the 2000 budget. That's just common sense.

Joe Lockhart says that the Republican budget doesn't make the investments in education that the American people expect.

Fact: The Republican budget has \$300 million more for education than the President's budget. In addition, the Republican budget would let local communities spend this money how they best see fit—including hiring more teachers, if that's what the community needs.

**COMMITMENT TO MILITARY  
RETIREEES**

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a request made by the Texas State Legislature asking that Members of Congress maintain its commitment to America's military retirees over the age of 65; to enact legislation that affords military retirees the ability to access health care either through military treatment facilities or through the military's network of health care providers, as well as legislation to require opening the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program to those uniformed services beneficiaries who are eligible for Medicare on the same basis and conditions that apply to retired federal civilian employees; and to enact any other appropriate legislation that would address these concerns.

Military retirees who have served honorably for 20 or more years constitute a significant part of the aging population in the United States. These retirees were encouraged to make the United States Armed Forces a career, in part by the promise of lifetime health care for themselves and their families.

Prior to age 65, these retirees are provided health services by the United States Department of Defense's TRICARE Prime program, but those retirees who reach the age of 65 lose a significant portion of the promised health care due to Medicare eligibility. Many of these retirees are also unable to access military treatment facilities for health care and life maintenance medications because they live in areas where there are no military treatment facilities or where these facilities have downsized so significantly that available space for care has become non-existent.

The loss of access to health care services by the military has resulted in the government breaking its promise of lifetime health care. Without continued affordable health care, including pharmaceuticals, these retirees have limited access to quality health care and significantly less care than other retired federal civilians have under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

It is necessary to enact legislation that would restore health care benefits equitable with those of other retired federal workers. Several proposals to meet this requirement are currently under consideration before the United States Congress and the federal Department of Defense and Department of Health and Human Services; of these proposals, the federal government has already begun to establish demonstration projects around the country to be conducted over the next three years, which would allow Medicare to reimburse the Department of Defense for the costs of providing military retirees and

their dependent health care; this project would allow a limited number of Medicare eligible beneficiaries to enroll in the Department of Defense's TRICARE Prime Program and receive all of their health care under that program.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to reaffirm the necessity in enacting legislation for military retirees health coverage over the age of 65. These individuals are entitled to fair and equitable access of health care. The principle resources for this to be done would be through proper military treatment facilities supplemented with a choice in a network of health care providers. Opening the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, which already applies to retired federal civilian employees, should be offered to uniformed services beneficiaries in order to ensure equitable benefits for all federal employees.

**A CONSUMER PROTECTION  
PROPOSAL**

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleague and friend, Rep. ANNA ESHOO, in introducing important consumer protection legislation. This legislation addresses the safety of medical devices which are designed to be used once but which are reprocessed for further use.

In correspondence to Rep. ESHOO, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) "agrees that the reuse of disposable medical devices and devices labeled for a single use is a very important public health issue." The agency further indicates that cleaning and sterilizing these devices can be very difficult and that material properties and device performance can be affected by reesterilization. Yet single use device reproducers, which may be companies specializing in this practice or hospitals or other health care facilities, are unregulated. They are not required to register with the FDA or to provide convincing evidence that the processes they use are appropriate and that the reprocessed devices are safe and effective.

Our legislation would correct this loophole in the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act by requiring single use device reproducers to register with the FDA and to demonstrate the safety and effectiveness of reprocessed devices. The bill will also require device users to obtain informed patient consent for the use of the device and establish a system whereby the safety and effectiveness of the devices when actually used in patient care may be tracked.

I urge my colleagues to join me supporting this important consumer protection measure.

**THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF  
DR. CHARLES STANISLAW**

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, a tragic accident in Macedonia October 16

took the life of Dr. Charles Stanislaw, a North Carolina State University agriculture professor and cherished volunteer with the Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance, an international agriculture extension service organization. His passing has been met with an outpouring of love and admiration for his life's contributions.

Charles Stanislaw, 65, grew up on a cattle farm in Pennsylvania, and managed a purebred beef cattle farm for three years before entering graduate school at Penn State University (M.S., 1962) and Oklahoma State University (Ph.D., 1966). Following graduate school, Dr. Stanislaw worked as a state Extension Swine Specialist with North Carolina State University. He developed and delivered educational programs in swine production for county agents in the areas of genetics and breeding, nutrition and feeding, building design, health management, and general production. He also managed the North Carolina Swine Demonstration Farm, supervised swine research units, and served in the National Swine Improvement Federation. Over 40 years of agriculture experience prepared him for his remarkable service in the Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (VOCA).

His work for VOCA in Macedonia and other countries reflected his commitment to service and to improving the lives of farmers around the world. The expertise and care he provided were extremely valuable to the people and places that needed them most. It was clear, as his wife Edythe has expressed, that Charles was doing something very important to him in a country he loved. An extremely popular volunteer, Charles was working on his tenth assignment for VOCA.

His colleagues have described him as a teacher, diplomat, and beloved friend. Upon learning of Dr. Stanislaw's death, those he served in Macedonia came to the VOCA office to express their sympathy and grief. One Macedonian said that her entire farm was based on Charles's work, and in a way was a monument to him.

Dr. Stanislaw had great interest in his Carpatho-Rusyn ancestry, helped establish a website for Porac, Slovakia, the birthplace of his parents, and was presented with the city's flag by the Mayor of Porac. In collaboration with Dr. Jan Babik of Kosice, Slovakia, he was writing a history of Porac. At home in North Carolina, Dr. Stanislaw was presented a Hall of Fame Award by the N.C. Pork Council "in appreciation of outstanding contributions and leadership to the pork industry and the North Carolina Pork Council."

Mr. Speaker, we mourn the passing of Dr. Charles Stanislaw with prayers for his wife, Edythe, two daughters, Christine Lynn and Leigh, their family and his many friends and admirers from Pennsylvania and North Carolina to Slovakia and Macedonia.

SALUTING THE PUBLIC SERVICE  
OF CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS  
JOHN MCGUIRE

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask my Colleagues today to join me in recognizing the

public service record of one of our own—a recently-retired employee of the House of Representatives, a member of my staff, John McGuire.

Although John has left public service and gone on to another stage of life in which he now focuses his energy entirely on family and friendly pursuits, he has left behind a record of admirable service.

Over the course of his professional career, and in addition to his time on my staff, he has brought great credit to the federal government. He has helped me understand the importance of our debt to veterans and he has excelled at constituent service in general.

A combat U.S. Marine veteran, John was indeed a very special liaison for me with the community of veterans who live in Central New York. But his camaraderie with those who have served our nation never limited his reach. For many in Central New York, John has been the federal government's helping hand.

We who count ourselves among his many friends are proud of his natural tendency to open his door to others in hours of need. His empathy has been matched only by his skills, his concern matched only by his optimism, and his values as an employee matched only by the good he does for others who are his friends.

The United States of America, the greatest country on earth, is strengthened by patriots and civil servants like John McGuire. Thank God for that. I join others of his admirers in recognizing his contributions and thanking him for his selfless dedication to principle and public service.

#### SUPPORT FOR CUSTOMS OPERATIONS

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a request made by the Texas State Legislature asking that Members of Congress provide funding for infrastructure improvements, more customs inspection lanes and customs officials, and a 24 hour customs operation at border crossing between Texas and Mexico.

Bottlenecks at customs inspection lanes have contributed to traffic congestion at Texas-Mexico border crossing areas slowing the flow of commerce and detracting from the economic potential of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Smuggling of drugs inside truck parts and cargo containers compounds the problem, necessitating lengthy vehicle searches that put federal customs officials in a crossfire between their mandate to speed the movement of goods and their mandate to reduce the flow of illegal substances.

At the state level, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts has released a report titled *Bordering the Future*, recommending among other items that U.S. customs inspection facilities at major international border crossings stay open around the clock. At the federal level, the U.S. General Accounting Office is conducting a similar study of border commerce and NAFTA issues, and the U.S. Customs

Service is working with a private trade entity to review and analyze the relationship between its inspector numbers and its inspection workload.

Efficiency in the flow of NAFTA commerce requires two federal customs-related funding commitments: (1) improved infrastructure, including additional customs inspection lanes; and (2) a concurrent expansion in customs personnel and customs operating hours.

Section 119 of the Federal Transportation Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), creating the Coordinated Border infrastructure program, serves as a funding source for border area infrastructure improvements and regulatory enhancements.

Domestic profits and income increases in tandem with the exports and imports, generating federal revenue, some portion of which deserves channeling into the customs activity that supports increased international trade.

Texas legislators and businesses, being close to the situation geographically, are acutely aware of the fixes and upgrades that require attention if NAFTA prosperity is truly to live up to the expectations of this state and nation.

#### NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT WREATHLAYING CEREMONY

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, I attended the Eighth Annual Wreathlaying Ceremony commemorating the Anniversary of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial's Dedication. Although I have attended these commemorations in the past, this year's ceremony was particularly touching.

Over the course of this decade, our federal, state and local law enforcement officers increasingly have faced dangerous conditions in communities around the Nation. During the 1990s, an average of more than 62,000 officers were assaulted, more than 21,000 were injured and 160 were killed in the line of duty each year. The walls of the Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial are lined with more than 14,000 names, including three of our very own Capitol Police Officers—Officer Jacob J. Chesnut, Detective John Gibson and Officer Christopher Eney.

Every single day, the men and women of law enforcement put their lives on the line to protect and serve large and small communities across this Nation. They risk their lives to make ours safe and secure. Whether as a border patrol agent, state trooper, or community-oriented police officer, all face the ultimate sacrifice in upholding the laws that serve as the foundation to our democratic form of government.

Below you will find that text of remarks made by Mrs. Shirley Gibson. Mrs. Gibson is the mother of Officer Brian Gibson, one of 160 police officers killed in the line of duty in 1997 and one of three officers from the District of Columbia's Metropolitan Police Department to be killed during a three-month period in that year. Officer Gibson was brutally gunned down outside of a District night club not far from this Chamber.

Since Brian's death almost two years ago, Mrs. Gibson has formed a local chapter of the

Concerns of Police Survivors. I salute her efforts to remember Brian and the thousands of other officers that have left behind family and friends while making the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

Mrs. Gibson: I feel qualified to stand here today and represent the survivors of each name inscribed on the walls of this beautiful Memorial. I see so much more than names on these walls. I see husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters. I see my son's face. His name was added to these walls two short years ago, along with the names of two fellow Metropolitan Police Department officers, Oliver Smith, Jr. and Robert Johnson, all killed in a span of three months.

640 law enforcement officers' names from the District of Columbia and the Metropolitan area are included in the more than 14,000 names that line these walls.

This Memorial recognizes all law enforcement, whether federal, state or local, and pays tribute to those officers killed in the line of duty. There are no boundaries in the family of law enforcement. The grief, shock, and anger felt that the deaths of U.S. Capitol Police Officer J.J. Chestnut and Detective John Gibson, and the support from MPD and other departments here and around the country, is an example of how law enforcement is truly a family.

To survivors, this is a place that evokes a flood of emotions. I remember seeing my son Brian's name being inscribed on the wall, and the pride I felt mixed with the pain. Pride, knowing that my son was an outstanding officer who was killed during what he loved most, and that his name was being memorialized for all who love him to see and remember. Pain, because I realized that Brian's name would not be the last name inscribed here. Since Brian's death, there have been many more names added, and as much as we pray that there will be no more, we realize that it is inevitable. To those law enforcement officers who diligently continue the job that Brian and the thousands of others here died for, the message this Memorial sends is that you are appreciated, you are needed and you make the world a safer place for law-abiding citizens.

On this, the eighth anniversary of the dedication this Memorial, another message is clearly sent. That message is that the role of Law Enforcement Officers will never be diminished, that the names inscribed here and the names attached to every law enforcement badge, convey the strength, courage, and valor symbolized by the imposing lions with guard the entrance to this Memorial.

The survivors who visit this Memorial find a quiet place of remembrance, dignity and pride. A mother from New York called me a few weeks after Police Week this year. Her only son had been honored. When she returned home, the desire to come back to the Memorial was so strong, that a few days later she boarded a train to Union Station, got a taxi and came here to simply spend the day looking at her son's name and remembered faces of those who advocated peace. A place where the wind whispers "Always remembered. Never forgotten." A place worthy of the name of those who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

God Bless the Gibson Family and God Bless the thousands of families whose loved ones are remembered on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Their tremendous sacrifice will never be forgotten. We will forever be in their debt.

## RECOGNITION OF THE NEW LEADERS

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an organization that is vitally important to our society as a whole. The New Leaders is an organization committed to empowering the African American community. Many challenges lie ahead in addressing the concerns of people of color. This organization brings young professionals together to tackle the social, economic, and political problems facing people of color. For five years, this organization used the collective resources of these young professionals to shape public policy.

Using fresh and innovative perspectives that we as policy makers desperately need, this organization has become a part of several youth education and training partnerships. The New Leaders has worked continually to increase African American leadership opportunities and to foster an environment of youth empowerment. As a member of their generation, I realize the importance of looking at our young people as assets and resources.

The New Leaders have made significant strides in this area by designing a leadership development program for middle school students, providing scholarship money to students, and sponsoring the highly successful and effective Take A Youth To Work Day.

Not only are The New Leaders ahead of the curve in advocating youth empowerment, they also support a fair and accurate census. Historically, minorities have been under-counted and The New Leaders are committed to Census 2000 in order to ensure equal representation and ample funding to combat some of the growing concerns in the African American community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our House colleagues to join me in recognizing the efforts and the achievements of The New Leaders. I also submit a position paper presented to The White House by The New Leaders for the RECORD.

THE NEW LEADERS—1999 POSITION PAPER ON YOUTH, LEADERSHIP AND THE CENSUS IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

(Presented to The White House, September 18, 1999)

The New Leaders (TNL) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization committed to empowering the African American community. For the last five years, TNL has been comprised primarily of Black professionals dedicated to addressing the social, economic and political issues facing people of color. We believe by leveraging our combined resources with a fresh, innovative perspective, our goal of shaping public policy will result in the organization attaining a value-added level of influence in this country.

Building upon the success the Clinton Administration has had in fostering mentoring, expanding investments in youth education and training, and creating the GEAR-UP initiative, TNL recognizes that several partnership opportunities lie ahead. Therefore, TNL recommends that the Administration put forth initiatives that further promote our young people to become actively involved in leadership and government. Additionally, these initiatives will help remedy the mis-

representation of Blacks that resulted from previous under-counts of minorities in past national census counts.

OBJECTIVE FOR INCREASING AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP REPRESENTATION

TNL encourages the Clinton Administration to expand existing initiatives and/or create a new initiative design to invest in the development of governmental leadership within African American communities across this nation. To formulate a model that could be duplicated, TNL proposes the development of a demonstration project that creates a leadership institute to train and prepare African Americans to take an active role in government.

CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES OF BLACKS IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS

Extreme apathy exists among a massive pool of untapped voters across this country. This apathy is prevalent in the Black community, especially among our youth. While reasons vary as to why eligible young voters are so far removed from the political process, we must find a way to reengage these individuals. Our failure to successfully address this issue will result in continued inadequate resources for underserved minority communities.

TNL'S COMMITMENT TO YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Over the past few years, TNL has touched the lives of thousands by addressing the social, political and economic state of the African American community. One of TNL's primary interests has been and continues to be our youth—equipping and instructing them to assume responsibility for their own lives and the future of their communities.

TNL has made significant strides in this area by designing a leadership development program for middle school students, providing \$88,000 in scholarship moneys through Texas Southern University (TSU), and most importantly, sponsoring our annual Take a Youth to Work Day. Every year this milestone even pairs African American males between the ages of 13 and 18 with professional Black men for a day of mentoring. By partnering with the current administration, TNL seeks to expand our outreach efforts. We will achieve this through continued advancements in technology, creation of charter organizations, and drawing upon the expertise of African American leaders both past and present.

THE HISTORICAL UNDER-COUNT IN THE PAST CENSUS & THE IMPACT ON AFRICAN AMERICANS

Since the inception of the census count, Blacks have been consistently under-counted. As a result, the Black community has been grossly misrepresented and ample funding has not been secured. One area of vital importance is health care. In this area, a new generation of African Americans continue to lead in the disparity of diseases such as: infant mortality, diabetes, cancer screening and management, heart disease, AIDS and immunizations (diseases identified by the Administration's initiative to end racial and ethnic health disparities). As we move towards a new millennium, an under-count in Census 2000 will have an enormous impact on the reapportionment efforts in this country. These efforts in turn could jeopardize minority political representation on the local, state and federal levels.

REMEDYING PAST UNDER-REPRESENTATION OF AFRICAN AMERICANS

It is the contention of TNL that one glaring example of the apathy and distrust of government deals with the under-count of Blacks in the census. While it is understood that federal moneys have been set aside to actively outreach underserved communities, TNL believes that additional steps are needed to address this long standing problem.

TNL recommends that the White House introduce an initiative similar to the one introduced by the Kennedy Administration that encouraged Americans to join the Peace Corps. This initiative would focus on training and empowering young people to become active in government. TNL believes that such an initiative will not only address the issues of inadequate reapportionment, but also concerns regarding reparations as well as the equitable treatment of Black Americans caught up in this nation's burgeoning criminal justice system.

## CONCLUSION

In their purest form, true leaders empower the constituency they represent, they take control of adverse circumstances, and they assume the responsibility for a better way of life. The best way to instill this ideology is to train and equip individuals that have been consistently and systematically denied the liberties this country has afforded other citizens.

Therefore, TNL believes that the most effective way to tackle these issues begins with empowering every African-American to become motivated and actively engage in the principals of democracy. If we can accomplish this, we will balance the scales of justice, ensuring fairness and equitable treatment for all, irrespective of race, creed, or color.

A new era. A new American. The possibilities are endless.

# RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF 4-H CLUBS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 25, 1999*

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I want to speak today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 194, introduced by my colleague Mr. DEAL. I am pleased to talk about this concurrent resolution that recognizes the contributions of 4-H Clubs and their members to voluntary community service.

I visit 4-H exhibits whenever I have the chance to stop by the booths at county fairs. I eagerly address 4-H meetings, particularly the annual teen conference.

This is a great organization. It is a group of young people who take the time and make the effort to learn about the environment, to help others, and to take care of their own animals.

The meetings and workshops conducted by the organization consistently reflect the interests of young people of Maine and of the nation, and those interests are varied. Times change and these days they are changing rapidly. It is great that they have the desire to learn more about their world.

4-H teaches young people how to work together, to compromise to reach the solution that's best for the most people. It allows them to take advantage of their time in school. But agriculture continues to serve as the roots of 4-H.

As a member of the Agriculture Committee, I have done what I could to help the youth of 4-H learn more about the role the agriculture industry plans in our state, our country, and indeed, the world. At the same time I have always admired the volunteerism of the organization and the quality of their contributions to their communities.

I am pleased to support this resolution recognizing the efforts of 4-H youth throughout this country.

## PUBLIC USE OF THE MCGREGOR RANGE

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a request made by the Texas State Legislature asking that Members of Congress ensure that the critical infrastructure for the U.S. military defense strategy be maintained through the renewal of the withdrawal from public use of the McGregor Range land beyond 2001.

Future military threats to the United States and its allies may come from technologically advanced rogue states that for the first time are armed with long-range missiles capable of delivering nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons to an increasingly wider range of countries.

The U.S. military strategy requires flexible and strong armed forces that are well-trained, well-equipped, and ready to defend our nation's interests against these devastating weapons of mass destruction. Previous rounds of military base closures combined with the realignment of the Department of the Army force structure have established Fort Bliss as the Army's Air Defense Artillery Center of Excellence, thus making McGregor Range, which is a part of Fort Bliss, the nation's principal training facility for air defense systems.

McGregor Range is inextricably linked to the advanced missile defense testing network that includes Fort Bliss and the White Sands Missile range, providing, verifying, and maintaining the highest level of missile defense testing for the Patriot, Avenger, Stinger, and other advanced missile defense systems.

The McGregor Range comprises more than half of the Fort Bliss installation land area, and the range and its restricted airspace in conjunction with the White Sands Missile Range, is crucial to the development and testing of the Army Tactical Missile System and the Theater High Altitude Area Defense System.

The high quality and unique training capabilities of the McGregor Range allow the verification of our military readiness in air-to-ground combat, including the Army's only opportunity to test the Patriot missile in live fire, tactical scenarios, as well as execute the "Roving Sands" joint training exercises held annually at Fort Bliss.

The Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986 requires that the withdrawal from public use of all military land governed by the Army, including McGregor Range, must be terminated on November 6, 2001, unless such withdrawal is renewed by an Act of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I would like to reiterate the importance of the McGregor Range land for the testing and training for Fort Bliss and the White Sands Missile Range. By being designated as the Army's Air Defense Artillery Center of Excellence, Fort Bliss has already received the status as an intricate part of the nation's military defense systems. Tactical scenarios would not be possible without McGregor Range to conduct the projects. The

## TRIBUTE TO SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Salve Regina University for being selected to receive the 1999 National Preservation Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Indeed, I cannot think of many college campuses that would qualify for such a distinctive and prestigious Award.

It is no secret, Mr. Speaker, that Newport is home to many of the 19th century "summer cottages" which personified the Gilded Age. Indeed, the city by the Sea enjoys a rich history of the splendid architecture of that Age. What is not widely known, however, is that Salve Regina's unique campus is comprised of 18 of these restored summer estates on some 60 manicured acres along the Atlantic coast. Salve Regina was recognized by the National Trust for its ongoing restoration of its campus and its accredited historic preservation educational program. The award was presented on October 22nd in Washington, D.C. at the National Trust's annual preservation conference.

Beginning in 1947 with the gift of an estate designed by noted architect Richard Morris Hunt, the University has added the former summer homes of Vice President Levi Morton, international sportsman James Van Alen, and New York financier William Watts Sherman to its collection. Some of the homes were designed by H.H. Richardson or McKim, Mead and White, and feature details by Louis Comfort Tiffany, John LaFarge, or Karl Bitter. This architectural treasure trove, which also includes landscapes designed by Frederick Law Olmstead, has been preserved in its entirety by Salve Regina.

The Salve Regina campus with its Gilded Age mansions, shingled Victorian cottages, and classically-designed landscapes is a working laboratory of American history and architecture. One such unique home is Ochre Court. It was the first of a group of spectacular Newport houses in the Grand Manner designed by Richard Morris Hunt, America's foremost architect of the late 19th century. Commissioned by the Goellet family in 1888, the stately 50 room mansion was given as a gift by the family in 1947 to the Sisters of Mercy to begin Salve Regina. Ochre Court now serves as the University's administration building and is a treasure trove of mythology, literature, and the arts and sciences.

Mr. Speaker, Salve Regina is also the home of the Pell Center for International Relations and Public Policy, named in honor of our former colleague Senator Claiborne Pell of Newport. In 1997 Salve Regina acquired Fairlawn to be the home of the Penn Center. Built in 1852, Fairlawn became the home of Vice President Levi Morton in 1860. Morton added a ballroom to this mansion in 1870 to accommodate a visit by President Ulysses S. Grant.

Aside from its many architectural treasures, Salve Regina is also recognized for its wonderful educational system. Having recently celebrated its 50th anniversary, the University is emerging into national recognition as a co-educational institution where academic excellence is fostered in a context of ethical living. In the tradition of its founders, the Religious Sisters of Mercy, Salve Regina embraces a mission of commitment to learning and community enrichment for students of all backgrounds and faiths. Over two thousand undergraduate and graduate students from 43 states and 26 foreign countries are enrolled in 32 undergraduate concentrations and 11 graduate programs, including a doctoral program in Humanities.

It gives me great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to congratulate Salve Regina University for receiving this national award. It is a testament to the leadership of the University under the incomparable Sister Therese Antone, the faculty, and the student body that their campus has been selected as one of our nation's top historic treasures. It is also symbolic of the ability of the University to not only adapt to this rich environment, but to continually feel the responsibility to preserve it for future generations of students, members of the community and visitors to Newport.

IN HONOR OF MARVIN D. GENZER,  
ESQ.

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Marvin D. Genzer, Esq. Recently, Mr. Genzer was honored by the Pace University School of Law for his outstanding contributions to the Bar, Pace University School of Law, and his community.

Mr. Genzer is the Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary responsible for all legal affairs of the EDO Corporation in New York. He is a past president of the Corporate Bar Association of Westchester and Fairfield.

Mr. Genzer teaches the Daniel A. Austin Memorial Lecture Series on In-House Corporate Practice as an Adjunct Professor of Law at Pace University School of Law and is a 1981 graduate of the law school.

While Mr. Genzer has been with the EDO Corporation since 1966, his first profession was in Electrical Engineering. In this endeavor, Mr. Genzer contributed greatly to our national safety and planning. He was Program Manager of the Lunar Landing Probe and a designer of the logistics program for the U.S. Magnetic-Minesweeping of Haiphong Harbor.

He is active in his Community, was President of the Fox Lane Ski Club, and has been involved in Little League and Youth Soccer. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring to your attention the outstanding life and work of Mr. Marvin D. Genzer. I ask that my Colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Genzer on his well deserved honor.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN JALILI

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the distinguished career of Santa Monica City Manager John Jalili, who is retiring after many years of dedicated public service.

John Jalili has served as a truly exemplary City Manager since 1984, leading the city to national recognition in environmental management, transit services, telecommunications, downtown revitalization, the arts, housing, human services and financial management. During his tenure, Santa Monica's financial rating has been upgraded three times and was recently given three triple A financial ratings—one of only four cities nationwide with this extraordinary financial standing. In addition, under Mr. Jalili's leadership, the Third Street Promenade stands as one of Southern California's most exciting community treasures.

John Jalili has served the remarkable beach-side City of Santa Monica for a total of twenty-five years. Prior to his appointment as City Manager, he served five years as Assistant City Manager and five years as Director of Community Development.

John Jalili has been honored by numerous professional organizations throughout his career. Last June, he was honored by the American Society for Public Administration, Los Angeles Metropolitan Chapter with the Dykstra Award for Excellence in Government. He has been recognized for his many years of public service by the International City/County Management Association. He has also been named one of the most influential people in Santa Monica by The Los Angeles Times' "Our Times" newspaper and was recently honored by the Pier Restoration Corporation for his contributions to the revitalization of the Santa Monica Pier.

John Jalili is known throughout City Hall as a manager who cares deeply about the quality of life of the residents of Santa Monica. He has been a creative, persistent and enthusiastic champion for the city and will be dearly missed by his colleagues and the community he has served.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating John Jalili for his long, distinguished career in public service and in wishing him and his family all the best in the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HEALTH CARE PRESERVATION AND ACCESSIBILITY ACT OF 1999

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 26, 1999*

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, State hospitals all over the country are experiencing severe financial crisis due to the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA 97, P.L. 105-33), which reduced Medicare reimbursements to hospitals and health service providers over a 5-year period. The BBA cuts ordered in 1999 were supposed to slow the growth of Medicare and save \$112 billion over 5 years, including \$4 billion from

Medicare payments to hospitals. However, the BBA, which I opposed, has imposed severe financial burdens on teaching hospitals, rural hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health providers. In my State alone, hospitals are estimated to lose \$2.8 billion in Medicare payments over a 5-year period.

The financial burden of the BBA cuts is causing severe pain for the teaching hospitals in my State. Because Illinois ranks fifth in the Nation in the number of teaching hospitals, and these facilities are expected to lose more than \$1.6 billion over the 5-year period, of the BBA's life. These cuts have a devastating effect on the communities that they serve.

In order to provide relief for these hospitals, I am introducing the Health Care Preservation and Accessibility Act of 1999, which will restore one-third of the difference between the projected and actual savings from hospitals. The legislation will accomplish this by freezing the cuts on teaching hospitals, rural hospitals, children's hospitals that operate graduate medical education programs, skilled nursing facilities and home health care. Specifically, my legislation will restore cuts in the following manner:

**Teaching Hospitals:** Freezes the cuts in indirect medical payments (IME) to 1999 levels. It also freezes cuts in the disproportionate share payments (DSH payments) at 2% and provides payments directly to those serving a large share of low-income patients.

**Children's Hospitals—GME:** Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make payments as specified to each children's hospital for the cost reporting period under Medicare for FY 2000 and 2001 for the direct and indirect expenses associated with operating approved medical residency training programs.

**Rural Hospitals:** Sets a floor on outpatient hospital payments so that rural hospitals do not fall below 1999 levels and establishes a new payment system for rural health centers.

**Safety Net Providers:** Revises the payment system for community health centers so that it more adequately covers the costs and allows those providers that furnish service to low-income Americans to be directly compensated for their services.

**Rehabilitation Therapy Caps:** Eliminates the \$1,500 per beneficiary cap imposed by the BBA and replaces it with a payment system that is based on the severity of illness.

**Skilled Nursing Facilities:** Revises the BBA's new prospective payment system for skilled nursing facilities. My bill will increase reimbursements for patients needing a high level of service to more accurately reflect the cost of their care. It will establish a demonstration program where the rule requiring a 3-day hospital stay for skilled nursing services can be waived for certain illnesses.

**Home Health Providers:** Delays a 15% reduction in the interim payment system if the Secretary of Health and Human Services misses the deadline for instituting the new prospective system. It also allows for interest free recoupment of overpayments due to HCFA's underestimation of the interim payment rates for certain agencies.

My legislation also provides additional protections for senior citizens and persons with disabilities and strengthens protections and sanctions for Medicare fraud and abuse.

I hope that my legislation, the Health Care Preservation and Accessibility Act of 1999 will provide the much-needed relief to the Illinois

Hospitals that have been harmed by the 1997 BBA-imposed reductions.

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HISTORY OF THE HOUSE AWARE-  
NESS AND PRESERVATION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 25, 1999*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2303, the History of the House Awareness and Preservation Act. As

an original co-sponsor of H.R. 2303, I believe the private and public sectors of this country would benefit substantially from the commission proposed by my colleagues from Connecticut and Missouri. This comprehensive history of the House of Representatives would provide an accurate, non-partisan picture for all those who are interested in American history and public policy.

In addition, this tax-free effort would be beneficial for current and future Members of Congress. H.R. 2303 includes a provision to authorize the Library of Congress to improve its collection of oral histories from former Members. Also, I am in support of the sense of the

Congress provisions that create a historical orientation program for new Members, as well as a Speaker's lecture series. The Majority Leader's lecture series has been a success in the other body, and I expect this forum would be the same.

Furthermore, I believe this commission would be successful because a select board will choose prominent historians who will focus primarily on procedures and policy, as well as personalities. In conclusion, I am reminded by an aphorism that states "Anybody can make history—only a great man can write it." Mr. Speaker, I hope we will find great individuals to write this important book of history